

(b) At the close of the effective period specified therefor in the Annex, HTS subheadings 9906.98.02 and 9906.98.03 shall cease to apply to imported articles, except that goods described in such subheadings that were shipped and in transit on a through bill of lading on such specified date shall be eligible for the tariff treatment specified therein as if entered on the last day of such effective period. At the close of the day that is one year from the close of the effective period specified in such HTS subheadings, U.S. note 28 to subchapter VI of chapter 99, such subheadings and their immediately superior text beginning with the word "Apparel" shall all be deleted from the HTS.

(c) The United States Trade Representative is authorized, after obtaining advice from the appropriate advisory committees established under section 135 of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2155), to extend the effective period of the new tariff provisions for one additional year, upon publication in the *Federal Register* of a notice modifying the new HTS subheadings accordingly.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-third.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., September 21, 1998]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on September 22.

Proclamation 7126—National Farm Safety and Health Week, 1998

September 18, 1998

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

America's agricultural industry plays an important role in our Nation's economy. It provides us with an ample supply of high-quality food and fiber and a rewarding form of employment for millions of Americans. However, farming and ranching remain

among our Nation's most dangerous occupations, demanding an understanding of complex agricultural equipment, strict attention to detail, and careful performance of farm and ranch work.

Among the most hazardous duties on farms and ranches is the operation of farm tractors and machinery. This work is even more dangerous with extra riders, and all farm equipment operators should avoid carrying people on their machinery who are not necessary to their work. Using tractors and machinery can be especially dangerous during planting and harvesting seasons, when farmers and ranchers must use public highways to gain access to production fields or to bring the harvested crop to market. During these times, all vehicle and equipment operators must exercise special caution on our roadways.

After school, during the summer, and other times of the year when children have more unsupervised time, can be very hazardous to our next generation of farmers and ranchers. Since many agricultural operations are family-oriented, this work can bring younger family members into contact with the mechanical, chemical, and environmental hazards their more knowledgeable parents and older siblings face daily with appropriate caution. Adults should strive to set good examples for younger, inexperienced workers and always carefully monitor children's activities.

Because of the environment they work in, agricultural workers also face serious health concerns. Noisy equipment and inadequate hearing protection frequently cause permanent hearing loss among farm and ranch employees, and skin cancer rates among agricultural workers are exceedingly high, due to long exposure to the sun and chemicals. In every farm environment, workers need to use protective gear to avoid health and safety hazards. This is not only for their personal benefit—it also sends the right message to the young people who are the future agricultural workers of our Nation.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim September 20

through September 26, 1998, as National Farm Safety and Health Week. I call upon government agencies, businesses, and professional associations that serve our agricultural sector to strengthen their efforts to promote safety and health programs among our Nation's farm and ranch workers. I ask agricultural workers to take advantage of the many diverse education and training programs and technical advancements that can help them avoid injury and illness. I also call upon our Nation to recognize Wednesday, September 23, 1998, as a day to focus on the risks facing young people on farms and ranches. Finally, I call upon the citizens of our Nation to reflect on the bounty we enjoy thanks to the labor and dedication of agricultural workers across our land.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-third.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., September 22, 1998]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on September 23.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

September 14

In the morning, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to New York City. In an afternoon ceremony at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, the President awarded Zachary Fisher the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his philanthropic work for Armed Forces service members, veterans, and their families.

In the late evening, the President and Hillary Clinton returned to Washington, DC, arriving after midnight.

September 15

In the afternoon, the President had a telephone conversation with Chicago Cubs outfielder Sammy Sosa on the occasion of Mr. Sosa's 62d home run, which tied the single-season home run record previously set by St. Louis Cardinals first baseman Mark McGwire.

The White House announced that the President will travel to Illinois, California, and Texas on September 25–27.

September 16

In the morning, the President held two separate meetings with President Václav Havel in the Oval Office and the Cabinet Room.

The President announced his intention to nominate Gordon Davidson and Cleo Parker Robinson as members of the National Council on the Arts.

September 17

In the morning, the President traveled to Cincinnati, OH, and in the evening, he traveled to Boston, MA. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to appoint Clarence V. Monin to serve as a member of the Amtrak Reform Council.

September 18

The President announced his intention to nominate Bill Richardson to be U.S. Representative for the Forty-Second Session of the International Atomic Energy Agency General Conference.

The President announced his intention to nominate Rose Eilene Gottemoeller to serve as Assistant Secretary for Non-Proliferation and National Security at the Department of Energy.

The President announced his intention to appoint Richard N. Gardner and Dean R. O'Hare as members to the Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiation.

In the evening, the President and Hillary Clinton hosted a White House Millennium Lecture entitled, "Jazz: An Expression of Democracy," in the East Room.